



One Call PC Solutions



August 15, 2003

Bits and Bytes...

Issue #4

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I'm sure that you have heard of the W32.Blaster.Worm virus that is floating around. I wanted to pass along some information that may prevent you from getting the virus. Microsoft has a special patch to block this virus, it is very simple to install and has not damaged any machine I have installed it on yet. You can find the patch for Windows XP at <http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=220773> and the patch for Windows 2000 is located at <http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=220776>. If you are already infected by the virus then chances are good that you can't stay online long enough to download the patch or possibly even read this email. The removal of this virus is not extremely tough but does take a little patience. Below you will find steps to remove the virus. Please note that the removal instructions are slightly different for Windows 2000 than Windows XP so make sure you are reading the right set of directions. Please feel free to pass this email along (in printed form if necessary) to anyone who might be having trouble with this virus. Also, if you are not infected, the below steps (including the firewall bit) are not necessary. The firewall could be trouble if you already have a router and more than one computer attached to it. Your router in this case will act as a firewall for you.

Windows XP:

- 1) If you are connected to the internet with Cable or DSL Internet access, you will need to unplug the network cable from the back of your computer at this point.
- 2) Start by enabling the Windows XP Internet Connection Firewall (this will prevent it from knocking you offline) as follows:
 - a) In Control Panel, double-click Networking and Internet Connections, **and then** Network Connections.
 - b) Right-click the connection on which you would like to enable ICF, and then click Properties.
 - c) On the Advanced tab, click the box to select the option to Protect my computer or network.
- 3) You can now plug the network cable back in.
- 4) Download the security patch from Microsoft and install it on your computer:
Windows XP (32 bit)
<http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=220773>
- 5) Download the W32.Blaster.Worm removal tool and run it on your computer:
<http://securityresponse.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w32.blaster.worm.removal.tool.html>

Windows 2000

- 1) If you are connected to the internet with Cable or DSL Internet access, you will need to unplug the network cable from the back of your computer at this point.
- 2) For Windows 2000 systems, where Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) is not available, the following steps will help block the affected ports so that the system won't be knocked offline.

Configure TCP/IP security on Windows 2000:

- Select "Network and Dial-up Connections" in Control Panel.
- Right-click the interface you use to access the Internet, and then click "Properties".
- In the "Components checked are used by this connection" box, click "Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)", and then click "Properties".
- In the Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) Properties dialog box, click "Advanced".
- Click the "Options" tab.
- Click "TCP/IP filtering", and then click "Properties".
- Select the "Enable TCP/IP Filtering (All adapters)" check box.
- There are three columns with the following labels:

- Click the "Options" tab.
- Click "TCP/IP filtering", and then click "Properties".
- Select the "Enable TCP/IP Filtering (All adapters)" check box.
- There are three columns with the following labels:
 - TCP Ports
 - UDP Ports
 - IP Protocols
- In each column, you must select the "Permit Only" option.
- Click OK.

3) You can now plug the network cable back in.

4) Download the MS03-026 security patch for Windows 2000 from Microsoft and install it on your computer:

Windows 2000:

<http://go.microsoft.com/?linkid=220776>

5) Download the W32.Blaster.Worm removal tool and run it on your computer:

<http://securityresponse.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w32.blaster.worm.removal.tool.html>

If you have any trouble with this process or just would prefer not to do it yourself, I'd be more than happy to take care of it for you. This worm will not affect most of you due to the firewall provided by the router you are using to share your internet connections. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact us. Please feel free to pass along this or any of our other newsletters to anyone you think might benefit from them. As always we appreciate your business and referrals.

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